

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

"This application is a divisional of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/908852, filed August 8, 1997 by D.C. Roe et al. which is ~~This application is a continuation-in-part application of copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/884,069, filed June 27, 1997 by D. C. Roe et al., which is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/345,159, filed November 28, 1997 by D. C. Roe et al. (issued as U.S. Patent 5,643,588 on July 1, 1997).~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1 line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

"This application relates to absorbent articles such as feminine hygiene garments diapers, training pants, adult incontinence devices, and the like. More particularly, the present invention relates to absorbent articles having a lotion coating on the outer surface of the topsheet that is transferable to the wearer's skin by normal contact and wearer motion and/or body heat. ~~The lotions disclosed in the present invention reduce the adherence of BM to the skin of the wearer, thereby improving the ease of BM clean up.~~"

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1 line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

"Many types of disposable absorbent products, such as diapers, are available that have a high capacity for absorbing urine. Disposable products of this type generally comprise some sort of fluid-permeable topsheet material, an absorbent core, and a fluid-impermeable backsheet material. ~~Although these types of absorbent structures may be highly efficient for the absorption of fluids, they cannot absorb bowel movements (i.e., hereinafter referred to as "BM"). Typically, the BM is trapped between the outer surface of the fluid permeable topsheet and the skin of the wearer, much of it adhering to the wearer's skin.~~"

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 27 and ending on page 2, line 3.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3 line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

"It is a further object of the present invention to provide a hydrophilic absorbent article topsheet having a lotion coating on the outer surface of the topsheet that is transferable to the wearer's skin ~~and is effective at producing desired skin benefits and/or reducing the adherence of BM to the skin, thereby improving the ease of BM cleanup.~~"

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 22 an ending on line 26.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 30 with the following amended paragraph:

"The present invention relates to a disposable absorbent article having a lotion coating on the outer surface of the topsheet that is semisolid or solid at ambient temperatures (i.e., at 20°C) and is adapted to be transferred to the wearer's skin, ~~where it acts to reduce the adherence of BM to the skin of the wearer, thereby improving the ease of BM clean up.~~"

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

"Briefly, the ~~disposable articles~~ feminine hygiene garment of the present invention comprise:

- A) a liquid impervious backsheet;
- B) a liquid pervious, hydrophilic topsheet joined to said backsheet, said topsheet having an inner surface oriented toward the interior of said article and an outer surface oriented toward the skin of the wearer when said article is being worn, wherein at least a portion of said topsheet outer surface comprises an effective amount of a lotion coating which is semi-solid or solid at 20°C and which is partially transferable to the wearer's skin, said lotion coating comprising:
 - (i) from about 10 to about 95% of a substantially water free emollient having a plastic or fluid consistency at 20°C and comprising a member selected from the group consisting of petroleum-based emollients, fatty acid ester emollients, alkyl ethoxylate emollients, polysiloxane emollients, and mixtures thereof;

- (ii) from about 5 to about 90% of an agent capable of immobilizing said emollient on said outer surface of the topsheet, said immobilizing agent having a melting point of at least about 35°C; and
- C) an absorbent core positioned between said topsheet and said backsheet; wherein the lotion is applied to the liquid pervious topsheet in a nonuniform pattern.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

"The quantity of lotion coating on a least a portion of the article topsheets of the present invention preferably ranges from about 0.1 mg/in² to about 25 mg/in², more preferably from about 1 mg/in² to about 10 mg/in². Lotioned article topsheets according to the present invention provide desirable ~~BM~~ cleaning, therapeutic or protective lotion coating benefits. Because the emollient is substantially immobilized on the surface of the topsheet, less lotion composition is needed to impart the desired skin care benefits. In addition, special barrier or wrapping materials are unnecessary in packaging the lotioned products of the present invention."

Please see a replacement (or new) abstract on the attached separate sheet.